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backer, has an outline shape the same as that of the guitar body or a lower portion of the guitar body, to be supported.

Claim 18 (currently amended) The combination of claim 17 1 including said guitar supported by the backer so that the guitar body outline is superimposed on the backer outline.

R E M A R K S

Applicants wish to thank Examiner for the discussion of this case.

Claim 1 now incorporates the contents of allowable claim 17, whereby claim 1 and dependent claims 2-10, 14 and 18, are urged to be allowable.

Claim 11 now incorporates the contents of claims 1, 7, 8, 9 and 10, whereby claims 11, 12, 13 and 17 are urged to be allowable.


Claim 15 now incorporates the contents of claim 17 (indicated to be allowable) whereby claim 15 and dependent claim 16 are believed and urged to be allowable.

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All claims are believed to be allowable over cited prior art patents, which fail to teach or suggest their contents, since all claims includes the contents of either allowable claim 17 or allowable claim 11 neither of which is suggested by cited art. Also, motivation to combine Sammons and Pirchio to reach claims 1, 11 or 15 is lacking.

Allowance is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,


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